

N.O.W. News

Official publication of the Numismatists Of Wisconsin



Volume 55 ❄ Number 4 ❄ Winter 2017

Numismatists of Wisconsin is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock nonprofit tax exempt corporation. Contributions are tax deductible. The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin collectors of numismatic items and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage, educate, and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$10 per year and entitles participants to N.O.W. News, this quarterly publication

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ON THE COVER:

Our cover subject comes to us courtesy of Steve Hayden – civilwartokens.com – Several things stand out about this McCabe, Coral Mills piece. Most obvious is the misspelling of Menasha as Manash. I suppose if the business was a crematory, ‘Manash’ might be appropriate, but in fact it was a mill in Menasha. Secondly, the token is muled with another business. Civil war token mules are rare. ‘John Hunt Groceries’ of Neenah graces the reverse. It is listed in ‘U.S. Civil War Store Cards’ Third Edition under Menasha because M comes before N alphabetically, making it the only known merchant from Menasha that issued a Civil War Token. Finally, this particular piece is pedigreed to NOW member and former NOW officer Mike Tramte. It’s a trifecta of coolness worthy of our winter issue cover!

From the Editor

Greetings NOW friends! Winter is upon us, and so it brings all of its joys. The lovely crystal snowflakes falling gently to cover our world with a beautiful blanket of white. The recreation opportunities abound; skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, ice fishing, skating, sledding and so on. We also have the splendid opportunity to get some fresh air while we shovel. It is pleasant to wrench ones back into a pretzel while hoisting the lovely crystal snowflakes that have compressed into an impenetrable crust. How soothing it can be to hit a crack in the concrete while pushing the shovel, driving the handle into your groin with the force of a Joe Frazer uppercut. How tranquil it can be when a fifty mile and hour 'light breeze' drives the lovely crystal flakes into hurling horizontal ice pellets, wetting your exposed nose and cheeks. There is beauty in experiencing a snow blower that refuses to start when it is most needed. There are words that burst from your mouth enough to calm you and scare the neighbors. So you limp into the house, leaving the bent shovel and the obstinate snow blower teetering in a snowbank. One eye is frozen shut, icicles drip from your nose hairs, you pry the gloves from your hands and de-crunch your coat that is a frozen combination of sweat and snow. Your eyes begin to thaw, you see today's mail on the counter... Alleluia!! It's the latest issue of NOW NEWS!!

Yes, your winter issue of NOW NEWS could very well be the best part of the season, so de-ice yourselves, grab a hot beverage, and relax with this outstanding issue! There are no less than SEVEN feature articles herein. That's right, I said SEVEN! We have several new authors contributing to our pages, starting with Richard Bartell who traces a Post Office Warrant Payment to its origin. Another new author to our pages is noted ancient coin scholar and award winning author David Vagi. Observing that Christmas is close at hand, those of you who practice the Christian faith should enjoy David's article 'Coins of Constantine', the Roman Emperor who first embraced Christianity. Next Jerry Binsfeld starts his new feature 'Ask a Coin Dealer'. Fred Borgmann uncovers another interesting medal. Mark Benvenuto continues his 'Inflating Away' series with the 960 Reis. Don Kocken gives us Part II of 'Vintage Coin Boards', and finally, new author David Forsythe reflects on what coin collecting can bring to one's life in 'A Return on your Investment'. What a lineup!! Don't forget our regular departments, NOW News and Notes, Coin Clubs, ANA News, BOOKS!, and the indispensable Show Calendar.

Sadly, the numismatic community at large lost a giant recently. Eric P. Newman died at the age of 106. We at NOW were especially touched by the man and his legacy. Please see his obituary on page 19.

Enjoy the Holidays!

Spread kindness, tolerance, and respect.

And buy some coins!



Jeff Reichenberger



NOW News and Notes

Now Board of Governors

Your Board of Governors met on October 1, 2017 at the Milwaukee Numismatic Society's 58th annual coin show at American Serb Memorial Hall in Milwaukee. Present were Fred Bordmann, Joel Edler, Tom Casper, Tom Galway, Lee Hartz, Matt Janzen, Clifford Mishler, Leon Saryan, Thad Streeter, and Bruce Benoit.

The Board discussed and approved the financial report submitted by Treasurer Benoit and approved the minutes from the previous meeting held in Green Bay on April 30, 2017.

The status of NOW's forthcoming annual gatherings in 2018 through 2020, in conjunction with local club shows, was reviewed by president Streeter, with an emphasis on the 2018 show scheduled for Sunday, April 22nd in Wausau. This gathering will be held in conjunction with the 55th annual Wisconsin Valley Coin Club show, and will constitute the observance of NOW's 58th anniversary. Dealer contract details and benefits accruing to NOW were discussed and met with the approval of the board.

The 2019 official gathering of the NOW will be hosted in Green Bay under the auspices of the Nicolet Coin Club. It will be hosted in the meeting hall of the Stadium View Bar & Grill, on a date to be determined, with Roger Bohn being the club contact. The 2020 gathering is set for Oshkosh at the Invitation of Randy Miller, to be hosted in conjunction with his February Wisconsin Coin Expos event. President Streeter reminded board members that thoughts and explorations of possibilities for future years are encouraged at this time.

It was agreed that junior member eligibility is to be open to anyone of good moral character that is aged 17 or younger, unanimously, on a motion by Saryan, seconded by Casper.

It was discussed and agreed that the bylaws should reflect that only adult regular or life members are eligible for election to the board and elected officer positions.

A preliminary operating budget for 2018 worked up and approved on a motion by Saryan, seconded by Janzen, and unanimously approved.

Next Meeting: Oshkosh at the annual Wisconsin Coin Expos show. February 18, 2018

DUES NOTICE

Please note that your ‘Dues are Due’ remittance envelope is in THIS issue. PLEASE send in your dues in a timely manner. Your yearly dues keep your club running and viable. It helps finance the quarterly printing of your N.O.W. News, and it supports our efforts to educate and promote the hobby. So send in your dues ASAP! Just \$10 per year! **THANK YOU!!**

Many of you took advantage of our multi-year discounts and life membership options – please check your mailing label on your NOW NEWS. The date you are paid THROUGH is on your mailing label. For instance, if you have 2018 or 2019 or 2020 on your label, you do not have to submit dues at this time. If you have 2017 on your label, then your dues are due now.

2017 WRITER’S AWARDS

It is time once again to vote for your favorite articles written by your fellow NOW members over the past year. Please take the time to show your appreciation for all of the wonderful articles by voting. The **Voting ballot** for the 2017 Writer’s Awards is in **THIS issue!** Please fill it out and send it in the enclosed remittance envelope. **THANK YOU!!**

SHOW REPORTS

The **Milwaukee Numismatic Society** held its annual coin show on Sunday, October 1, 2017 at Serb Hall. We lucked out with a warm and beautiful day with no Green Bay Packers game to interfere. We worked hard to promote this show which including mailing out postcards, ads on Facebook, Craigslist, numismatic publications, newspapers and posting fliers at coin shows, coin shops and Milwaukee area merchants.

Our setup crew arrived at 6AM. The tables were covered and electrical lines laid. We finished by 7AM and ushered in the long line of booth holders anxious to get in to set up. The 75-table show was a sellout as usual. By 9AM a long line of public lined the hallway and after registering were let in the show. The show was busy for most of the day. At the end of the day 470 collectors visited our show. The booth holders reported doing well.

Our exhibit area had seven exhibits by seven exhibitors filling sixteen cases. Six of these exhibits were new this year. The title of the exhibits are as follows: American Banknote Co. Admission Tickets to the 1893 Columbian Exposition, U.S. Philippines Half Centavos (1903-1908), Sower of the Forest, A Medieval Armenian Coin Hoard, Horse Car Tokens, Wisconsin Civil War Brewery Tokens, So-Called Dollars.

The exhibit awards were presented at our banquet on October 28, 2017. Please mark your calendar for next year’s show date of Sunday, October 7, 2018. -Submitted by Tom Casper, Show Chairman

The **Sheboygan Coin Club** held their annual Fall Coin Show at The Village 170 on Sunday Oct 29, 2017. Lots of folks commented on how nice this place is. It is clean, ample parking, and easy to get around in the hall.

There were 41 dealers present with coins, tokens, paper money, supplies and the like.

Ed Rautmann was the chairman of the Show Committee.

Our security officer Jim Longo and his dog Zeva were on duty keeping everyone safe.

Our food truck was on hand and they served up some mighty fine sandwiches and sides.

The next show will be on Sunday April 15, 2018 and again Ed Rautmann is the chairman. If you are interested in being part of the show please contact Ed. His contact info is listed in the NOW NEWS show calendar. – Submitted by Judith Wallner

The **Madison Coin Club** held its Fall show on Oct. 29, 2017. The show was a huge success. We want to thank everyone who helped with our Fall Show, especially John Krueger who organized and ran the Show. We also want to thank all the other members who helped with publicity, the registration desk, and those who helped the dealers enter and exit the Show. Our next show will be held on March 11, 2018. See the NOW NEWS show calendar for details.

Free Word Ads

NOW NEWS is offering FREE Word Ads for CURRENT NOW Members! You must have your membership dues current, and you may submit a 50 Word Ad offering your goods or services free of charge. Ads must be sent to the NOW NEWS editor by the following firm deadlines: Spring Issue – Feb. 15, Summer – May 15, Fall – Aug. 15, Winter – Nov. 15.

2018 NOW Show. 58th Anniversary. Wausau.

Sunday, April 22, 2018

In conjunction with the Wisconsin Valley Coin Club's 55th Annual show

Plaza Hotel. 201 N. 17th Av. Wausau, WI

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

A Brief History of the Nanaupa, Wisconsin Post Office (Fond du Lac County)

By Richard A. Bartell

Information in this article was compiled from old Fond du Lac County Plat Books, microfilm of U.S. Postal records, and other history books of Fond du Lac County. The microfilm records show pertinent information related to the Nanaupa Post Office, such as the dates of its establishment, when it was discontinued, its name changes, and the appointment dates of its Postmasters.



Post Office Warrant dated March 2, 1889, paid to Solomon Wilkinson in the amount of 45 cents. Actual Size 5"x 9".

Definition of Post Office Warrant Payments (as listed in the *United States Official Postal Guide*, July 1943.)

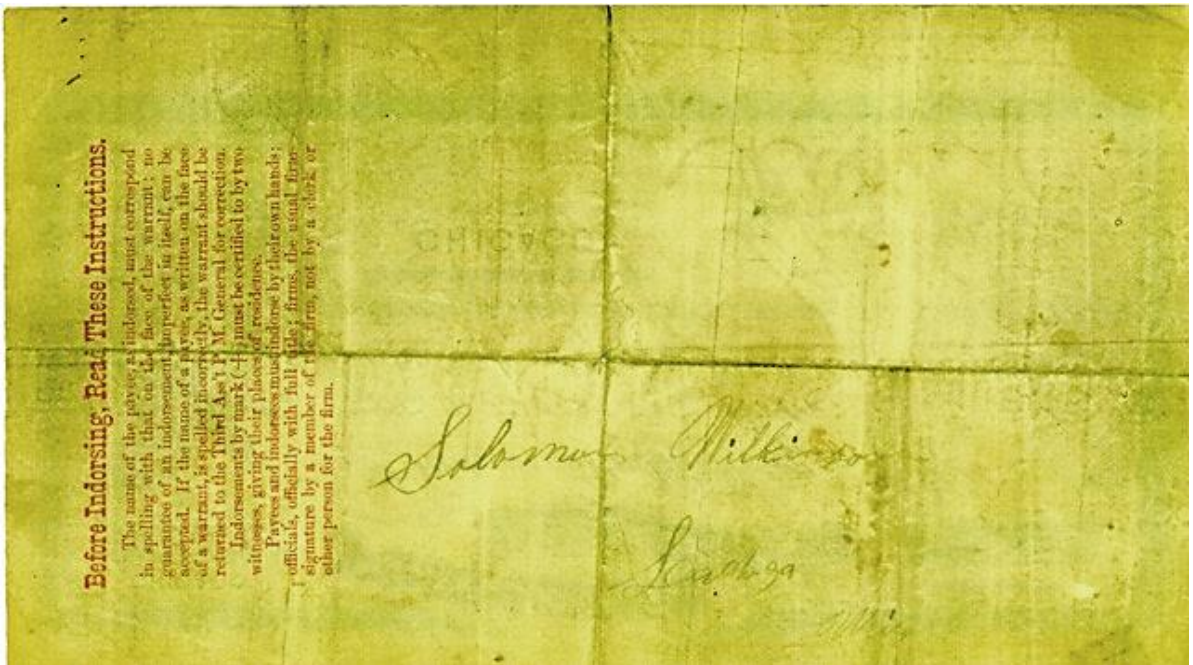
All payments for carrying the mails on star* routes, steamboat, railroad, electric car, pneumatic tube, and special office routes and for any temporary service that may be employed in connection with said routes, are made by warrants drawn on the United States Treasury. Postmasters should not pay for such service, and must not expect the department to refund any money they may have erroneously paid for the carriage of the mails. The department cannot pay postmasters for carrying the mails, neither can it allow postmasters credit in their quarterly accounts for money paid by them for such service. Payments will be made by warrant on the treasury direct from the department after the expiration of each month and as soon as accounts can be settled, if required evidence of service has been received.

(*Star routes refer to the contracting of mail delivery services by the Postmaster General, to bidders who must tender faithful guaranteed delivery with celerity, certainty and security of transportation. These bids were designated on route registers by three stars ***, thus known as star routes.)

The Post Office and its Postmasters

The first settler in Pulaski Township, later changed to Springvale Township, was William Cheney, who settled on section 31 of Wedge's Prairie in April 1845. On February 26, 1847 he became the first Postmaster of this small early Post Office, which was located inside the home of William Cheney. William was born on December 31, 1806 in Rutland County, Vermont. He spent his early life on his family's farm and began teaching music at age 18. He was married in 1834 to Sophronia Resseque who traveled with him to settle in Wisconsin. Mrs. Cheney passed away in 1897 and was preceded in death by William, who died in 1888. They are both buried in Wedge's Prairie Cemetery, which is located just west of Ladoga, Wisconsin.

Solomon Wilkinson was the tenth, and last, Postmaster of this small Wisconsin Post Office, now known as the Nanaupa Post Office. He was appointed Postmaster on October 30, 1867. He was born on May 14, 1815, and died on October 22, 1900. He is buried in Wedge's Prairie Cemetery.



Reverse of the P.O. Warrant endorsed by Solomon Wilkinson, Ladoga, WI.

Unanswered Questions: Why did it take 19 years for the Post Office Department to pay Mr. Wilkinson his .45c? How many warrants were issued from the Chicago Office and how many might still be outstanding (never redeemed)? What time period were these warrants issued? Are there any NOW members who have seen these, or collect them?

Nanaupa Post Office statistics

The office was located in the Township of Springvale, near the corner of Highway M and Old Highway 103 (now Highway TC), on the William Cheney farm. The Office was originally called Pulaski Post Office, then Springvale Post Office, then Nanaupa Post Office. The Nanaupa office was based at the present location of the residence at rural W11198 Highway TC. (Ladoga, WI)

List of Postmasters and date of appointment:

Pulaski Post Office

William Cheney...2/26/1847

Jason A. Jones ...6/27/1849

Lucius P. Wedge ...11/27/1849

Jason A. Jones ...3/19/1850

Herman C. Brinkerhoff ...4/16/1850

Name changed to Springvale Post Office ...1/27/1851

Abriah A. Hubbard ...1/27/1851

Name changed to Nanaupa Post Office ...6/2/1852


John W. Moore ...6/2/1852

Abriah A. Hubbard ...8/22/1854

Friend P. Ferguson ...5/21/1858

Solomon Wilkinson ...10/30/1867

Post Office Discontinued ...11/4/1870

Approximate location of the Nanaupa
Post Office, Ladoga, WI. 



COINS of CONSTANTINE I

By David Vagi

(The following article was previously published in The Centinel (vol. 65 No. 2) column 'Understanding Ancients' and comes to NOW NEWS courtesy of author David Vagi and Centinel Editor Gerald Tebben.)

Constantine I “the Great” (A.D. 307 to 337) is best known as the Roman emperor who supported Christianity over paganism. For 25 years he professed to be a Christian; on his deathbed he was baptized, and he later became a Christian saint.

He came to power in A.D. 306, after the death of his father, Constantius I “Chlorus,” who had served the empire for 13 years as a caesar and augustus (emperor). When young Constantine was passed up for promotion he seized control of his father’s former territories in Western Europe and Britain.



Bronze statue of Constantine I in York, England, erected near the spot where he was proclaimed Augustus in 306.

Though by definition a rebel, Constantine had a reasonable claim to authority. Even so, his skill as a general proved far more valuable than his pedigree, for he never once was defeated in battle. Through aggressive civil wars he eliminated his Roman rivals: Maxentius in 312 and Licinius in 324. Thereafter he was sole ruler of the Roman world.

During his more than 30 years in power, Constantine issued untold millions of coins and medals in gold, silver and billon (copper with a small amount of silver). His earliest issues, 306 to 307, bear his title of Caesar – a rank subordinate to that of Augustus. Thereafter, he struck coins bearing the title of Augustus, a title he formally claimed in July of 307.



This rare silver argenteus was issued by Constantine, as Caesar, at the Trier mint in A.D. 306 or 307.



Struck at the Nicomedia mint in A.D. 324 or 325, this gold solidus portrays Constantine gazing heavenward.

The most valuable of Constantine's regular-issue coins were gold aurei and solidi. The aureus had been the standard gold denomination up through the early 4th Century, after which Constantine began to strike the slightly lighter solidus (about 4.45 grams). By 324 it had replaced the aureus and for centuries afterward it was the standard gold coin of the Roman and Byzantine Empires.

Though Constantine struck gold coins on a large scale, he did not produce silver coins in large quantities. His earliest silver coins were argentei and half-argentei, but these denominations eventually gave way in to the miliarenses and the siliqua. The miliarensis was a large coin that perhaps was ceremonial. The siliqua may have been intended for mass distribution, but it was never struck in large quantities until after Constantine's death. By contrast, billon coins of Constantine were issued in staggeringly large quantities. For this reason, even today, they are readily available at modest prices.



This billon coin, variously called a nummus, a follis or an AE3 was struck at the Siscia mint in c.A.D. 319.



This small billon coin of the "AE4" size was struck in Constantine's posthumous honor at Antioch c.A.D. 337 to 340.

Small billon coins also were struck in Constantine's posthumous honor by his three sons, each of whom became an emperor upon their father's death. In a religious sense they are hybrid issues, for they show Constantine's veiled portrait on the obverse and describe him in the traditional pagan manner as divus, and on the reverse of some he is shown in a chariot, ascending toward heaven, where he is received by the Hand of God (manus Dei.)



Head of the famous 'Colossus of Constantine' sculpture.

Part of the remains of this giant marble sculpture that was originally erected at the Basilica of Maxentius and Constantine in Rome. c.AD 312-315. The seated statue measured some 40 feet in height. The head itself measures approximately 8 feet. Other parts salvaged include an elbow, knee, hand with finger pointing, shin, and both feet.



Coin images in this article courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group. cngcoins.com

Bronze statue image: romeacrosseurope.com

Colossus image and information: smarthistory.org

ASK A COIN DEALER by Jerry Binsfeld #0091L (JFBinsfeld@yahoo.com)

How does a dealer get a large number of orders from the Mint when there is one to a household?

He plans ahead and has a large number of customers who are paid a premium to go on line and order a particular product from the mint. Here's how it works, when a desirable product is offered by the mint the dealer alerts his customers via email. Along with the request to order the mint product the dealer also sets a deadline for ordering and a deadline for selling and of cause the price he will pay. The customer then orders from the mint and upon receiving the order he immediately sells it to the dealer.

Is there such a thing as unsearched bags of wheat cents?

Most likely not. Most sellers who have hordes of wheat cents will sell them only after they pick out the keys and semi keys and many are already rolled by date and mint mark. Many times it is true that the dealer who purchases the cents will not search them and therefore can say unsearched (meaning by them).

What's the most common way to fake a silver dollar?

The most common way is the cast method. Cast are made from the original die or from an original coin and coins made this way are easy to detect. Generally the weight is off (lighter in most cases) and the color is gray. The surface of the fake coin is covered with minute sand holes and in some cases the thickness is off as well.

What is a quick way to identify a fake California gold piece?

Color, weight, pictured bear and lack of a denomination generally will indicate that they were merely souvenir pieces.

What gold coins or bars should I buy?

It's a personal preference and each dealer likes something different for different reasons and you could say the same for customers. Dealer A may like the American gold eagle because it's very popular and in a sense it supports America. Dealer B likes the one ounce bar because it has the lowest premium over spot and Dealer C likes the Kruggerand because it also has a low premium and it doesn't scratch easily.

There is no right or wrong, the bottom line is if gold goes up to \$1900 again all the one ounce gold will go up and reflect that high spot price.

What gold bullion coins and bars are 22 Karat and which ones are 24 Karat and what should I buy?

Gold Eagles and Krugerrands are 22 Karat coins while Maple Leaf coins, Pandas and bars are 24 Karat items. The fact is that there is no difference in the amount of gold in each of these items. All have 1 oz. of pure gold, the difference is the amount of silver and copper. This is why the 22 Karat coins weigh more than 1 troy ounce (33.9 grams) vs 1 troy ounce pure coins or bars (31.1 grams). (Note-gold pandas now are 30 grams since 2016)

What are some of the reasons why people sell their coins beside the 3 D's?

The 3 D's you mean death, divorce and debt. Many times these do play into selling but not always. I know of collectors who sell because their collecting interest change, an example would be from coins to paper money. In some cases the collector merely wants to down size and in other cases a new reference book comes out and that causes a change.

Is there a good source for identifying ancient Roman coins?

The Sears books are excellent references for Ancient Roman coins. I just recently read that the American Numismatic Society has made it possible to identify coins of the Roman Empire by searching images, it's called (OCRE) Online Coins of the Roman Empire. Just go to "Identify a Coin" {link; [http:// numismatic. org /ocre /identify](http://numismatic.org/ocre/identify)} by the way the program works on any device from computers to tablets to smart phones.

Is a sample graded set a good idea?

Yes, I have heard of a few shops that show graded sets. It's a good way to educate collectors. I know that Kurt Krueger from Iola, at one time sold Morgan graded sets. I have heard that the grading companies use these as well.

What proof can you give me that PCGS and NGC are the two best grading companies? I know they are the most expensive.

I guess the best way to prove this is that the two big auction houses (Stacks/Bowers and Heritage) exclusively use these two grading companies.

Why are proof sets and mint sets doing so poorly when value is attached?

Supply and demand. Baby boomers are inheriting coin collections and in most collections there are mint and proof sets. Across America coin shops are being offered these because the seller usually states that they take up too much room. This of course adds to the supply.

Why are local coin shows important?

The shows provide collectors with a source to see a variety of coins and to compare prices. It also shows that coin collecting is popular by the large number of people who attend these shows.

Are the early type odd denomination coins popular?

Yes, the early odd denomination coins are the half cent, two cent, three cent nickel, three cent silver and the twenty cent piece. Anyone who is putting a type set together needs one of each.

What's the story behind the Feuchtwanger Cent?

The Feuchtwanger cent was struck in 1837 by Dr. Lewis Feuchtwanger and is a private issue. He tried to persuade Congress to adopt the metal that his cent was made of but they refused because the elements that make up the metal were hard to obtain.

What is a better investment gold or silver? This will be the first question that I will answer in the next NOW NEWS, so until then, Happy Trails.

Racine Numismatic Society Coin Show

Sunday, February 25, 2018

Roma Lodge

7130 Spring St. (Hwy C), Mt. Pleasant, WI 53406

9am – 3pm

Raffle – Free Admission – Free Parking

79TH ANNUAL

50+ Tables - Don't miss it!



ERIC P. NEWMAN (1911-2017)

ERIC PFEIFFER NEWMAN died Wednesday, November 15, 2017, at his home in Clayton at the age of 106. Devoted husband of the late Evelyn Edison Newman for 75 years, brother of the late Ivy Steele of Chicago, beloved father of Linda Newman Schapiro of New York and Andrew (Peggy) Newman of St. Louis, enthusiastic and inspiring “Opa” to his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A life-long resident of Clayton, Eric attended John Burroughs School from the day the school opened in 1923 and obtained his engineering degree from MIT and his law degree from Washington University.

Eric was a great lawyer, inventor, and historian, but he was best known as a numismatic collector and scholar, generous philanthropist, and inveterate traveler. He was a member of The Explorer’s Club and, with Evelyn, pioneered travel to every corner of the globe. Over the years, they enjoyed hosting family and friends both in St. Louis and at their homes in Jamaica, Martha’s Vineyard, and the bluffs of Alton, Illinois. Eric established the Newman Money Museum in St. Louis and authored over 100 books and articles, principally in the field of numismatics.

Both directly and through his role in the Eric P. & Evelyn E. Newman Foundation, the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society, the Harry Edison Foundation, and the Edison Family Foundation, he helped in the creation of St. Louis institutions such as the Butterfly House, The Magic House, the Eric P. Newman Education Center at Washington University, and many of the concepts and events dreamed up by his wife Evelyn. Their marriage was an enduring and remarkable model of love, partnership, effectiveness, and concern for others.

The family wants to express its heartfelt thanks to Eric’s many compassionate caregivers. Per Eric’s wishes, there will be no funeral or memorial service. Any gift to your favorite charity would be a welcome tribute to his life. Messages of sympathy may be sent to EricNewmanFamily@gmail.com. - *St. Louis Post – Dispatch*

From Clifford Mishler: *“Eric was without question a unique individual. In our community there were none like him in the past. There will unlikely be any like him in the future. We have all been greatly enriched in our involvements by his presence during our passage. His knowledge, dedication, integrity, and support of the community were without parallel.”*

Indeed, Mr. Newman touched the numismatic community like no one else through his scholarship and generosity. Numismatists of Wisconsin have received from the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society a generous donation to further our mission to advance numismatic education here in Wisconsin and beyond. We are deeply grateful to Eric and his family. -*Editor*

The Mysterious Sugden Medal

by Fred J Borgmann #1175

The Mysterious Sugden Medal first surfaced on eBay about three years ago when it was listed as a Wisconsin Civil War medal. The seller was a gold and silver dealer who described the medal as 10k unmarked gold, 12.2 grams in weight and 2 ¾ inches tall. The medal is an ornate heart shaped pendent on which is depicted an advancing soldier firing his rifle in a very awkward position almost as though he is shooting over a high barrier. In front of the soldier is “Co. F.” above “WIS.” The reverse is blank and the medal is suspended by two chains from a gold ribbon shaped brooch inscribed “SUGDEN MEDAL.” The back of the brooch originally had a T-bar pin with a C-catch.

The name of the medal on the brooch “Sugden Medal” is the name of the medal itself and not the name of the recipient. The name would indicate that the medal was funded by or named in honor of someone named Sugden which was a common practice for Wisconsin National Guard awards in the 1880’s through the early 1900’s. The uniform worn by the soldier is also correct for the time from the Civil War to the early 1900’s.

Also of note is the lack of a regimental identification on the medal. Just “Co. F.” and “WIS.” are mentioned. Wisconsin had 52 infantry regiments during the Civil War and nearly everyone had a company F so with no mention of a regiment this could not be a Civil War related medal. Since only a Company F is listed, that would indicate that at the time of issue the Wisconsin National Guard had only one Company F. That would only have been possible as of April 6, 1881 when the Racine Light Guard was established as Company F of the first regiment. As listed in the 1883 Wisconsin Blue Book, Co. F. was the only active and functioning Company F in the entire Wisconsin National Guard. By the 1885 edition of the Wisconsin Blue Book two more Company F’s are listed which would date the creation and issue of this medal to sometime between 1881 and 1885 or so it was thought until an article in the December 29, 1896 issue of the Racine Journal Times was brought to my attention. This article states that the “Sugden Medal” was a drill prize medal created just for the men of Racine’s Company F. The drill competition was held on the evening of Dec. 28th in the Armory Hall and was won by a Warren Scott. Unfortunately the article doesn’t state when the medal was created, who made it or who sponsored it.

Why is the regiment not indicated on the medal? I assume that the designer of the medal was a civilian and the importance of the regimental identification simply never occurred to him. Civilian unfamiliarity with the military could also explain the awkward stance of the soldier depicted on the medal.

Since the Wisconsin National Guard was always strapped for cash, medals and awards were rarely funded in the budgets. The military since the time of Napoleon, has universally recognized the motivational value of a few well-placed medals. To quote the 1905 Wisconsin Adjutant General’s report. “Competitive drills, target practice and proficiency in the manual of arms is stimulated by medals offered by company commanders.” Private donors were always welcome too.

Who sponsored this award? There were a number of Sugdens in the Racine area. One served in the unit during the Spanish-American War and was very involved in veteran's organizations. The family was apparently successful and his father or family may have sponsored this medal.



Sugden Medal. Actual size: 2.75 inches height



Reverse

Central States Numismatic Society

79th Anniversary Convention

Schaumburg, IL

Schaumburg Renaissance Hotel & Convention Center

April 25 – 28, 2018

Numismatic Educational Forum – Educational Exhibits – 300 Booth Bourse
Bourse Information: Patricia Foley, (414) 698-6498, foleylawoffice@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.centralstates.info

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Inflating Away: Brazil's 960 Réis

by Mark Benvenuto #2089

There are a few countries throughout the world which look enormous on the map, yet that can be considered much, much smaller when we look at where folks live in them. Canada is a good example. It's an absolutely huge nation, at least when viewed on a Mercator projection map. Yet almost all the people in Canada live within 100 miles of the United States' border. Brazil is a bit like this as well, but in this case most of the people in this huge nation live close to the coast, or directly on the Amazon River. Unlike most other nations, Brazil has interesting chapters in its past where it progressed from a colonial holding of Portugal to an empire, and later to the republic it is today. Through all this, the people of Brazil needed coinage, and the system is one of those that might be called pleasantly confusing, at least to us outsiders. In the beginning, 120 Réis equaled 1 Real. Later, 1,000 Réis equaled 1 Milréis. After that, 100 Centavos was equal to a Cruzeiro.

Brazil's monetary system never really had a unit coin made of silver, like a \$1 coin. Rather, for well over two centuries, Brazil had several copper coins that were multiples of one single Réis, such as the 5, the 10, the 20, and the 40 Reis, all in copper. By the turn of the nineteenth century, the big, silver coin was the 960 Réis. Even though the denomination may seem odd today, this coin functioned much like a silver dollar would.

As Brazil moved from colony to empire with self-proclaimed emperor Jao I, the 960 Réis was the big silver coin of the new empire. It was made for several years prior to the declaration of empire, sporting the national coat of arms of Portugal, since Brazil was at that time a colony. Immediately after the break from the Old World, the 960 Réis was still being minted, although the coat of arms had made way for the arms of the new nation.



Now curiously, these big silver pieces don't usually cost a fortune, especially if there is a bit of wear on them. It's not that their silver weight is low. Rather, it's that there is not a particularly big collector base for them in the U.S. today. So even though these pieces are approaching two hundred years of age, there may still be some good bargains for the savvy collector.

Inflation chewed away at the monetary system of Brazil, and by the time of the monetary reform in the middle of the nineteenth century, the 960 Réis was gone, replaced first by a 1,200 Réis coin. There is 26.89 grams of silver in the new denomination, and that weight and a 0.917 fineness meant that while one denomination had vanished, there was still a big, silver coin with about the same purchasing power.

Believe it or not, the next step was a 1,000 Réis coin – but not as the biggest of the silver pieces. Now, in the 1850's, it was a 2,000 Réis coin that occupied the top spot when it came to big silver. Weighing in at 25.5 grams of 0.917 fine silver, it was slightly smaller than what had come before.

It was 1889 when Brazil evolved to a republic, and among the many changes the nation underwent, the coinage saw some adjustments. Interestingly, although the 2,000 Réis coin changed in design, now sporting a female portrait on the obverse – an image of Liberty, one can imagine – the weight and fineness did not yet take another hit based on inflation. While that's certainly good news, the bad news is that those 2,000 Réis pieces produced in the 1890's were made in relatively small quantities, and thus can be costly today.

It was 1906 that saw the big silver of Brazil take its next hit. The 2,000 Réis coin was now degraded to 20.0 grams total weight, and 0.90 fine silver. This standard hung on for a bit more than a decade, and because some of the annual mintages were quite large, specimens can be found rather inexpensively today.



Brazil switched to its first decimal system in 1942, in which 100 Centavos were equal to 1 Cruzeiro, and therefore the Réis system, often called the Milréis system because of the high denominations, came to an end. But there is a fascinating footnote that came near the end of the Réis coinage: a massive, silver 4,000 Réis coin that was produced in 1900 only. Weighing in at a hefty 51.0 grams of 0.917 fine silver, this issue commemorated the 400th anniversary of the discovery of Brazil by European explorers. The Krause catalog lists two different varieties, and the total mintage was fairly large. Yet the prices remain pretty steep, probably because it's tough to find one of them (they don't routinely seem to turn up in dealers' stocks, even those who have a wide array of material). Whatever the price though, it would be quite the accomplishment to land one of these biggest of all the Brazilian silver for a growing collection.



There are a few silver issues scattered among the Brazilian coins of the twentieth century, but none are of the size, heft, and fineness of those early 960 Réis pieces. Yet the fact that this big coin basically inflated away means that for interested collectors today, there is a distinct start and end point for this series. For the person looking to expand his or her collecting interests, these early coins of Brazil are tied up with the exploration and settlement of a huge land in which most of the people living there dwell along either a coastal strip, or along one of the world's greatest rivers.

COLLECTING VINTAGE COIN BOARDS **Part II**

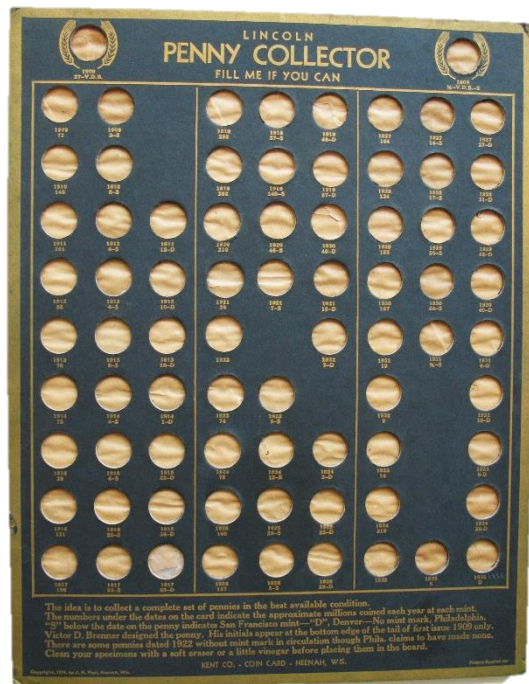
By Donald Kocken #2133

Coin Boards were made from heavy cardboard 11 inches X 14 inches with holes punched into the size of the coin, to collect by denomination, date and mintmark. The back of the board had paper or plastic to hold the coin in. Coin boards were made from 1934 through 1948 in various colors. When the boards were filled, people would put them in a picture frame and hang them on the wall. There were at least seven publishers during this time frame and I will talk about each one separately. Some of the coin boards are very common, but try to find them without creases, bent corners or holes punched through, especially if the back paper is missing. Some boards are very rare. I'm still missing a few to complete a Coin Board Type Set.

KENT COMPANY- The first coin board made, was by Joseph Kent Post in Neenah, Wisconsin. Its copyright dated 1934 under his Kent Company. The title was **LINCOLN PENNY COLLECTOR**, with a subtitle **FILL ME IF YOU CAN**. He drove all over Wisconsin and Northern Illinois selling to retail stores. In 1935 Whitman Publishing Company in Racine, Wisconsin purchased the rights.

The types of Kent Company Boards produced in First and Second Editions were:

1. Lincoln Penny Collector-Fill Me If You Can
2. Indian Head / Penny Collector
3. Liberty Head Nickel Collector
4. Buffalo Nickel Collector
5. Morgan Type Dime Collector
6. Mercury Dime Collector



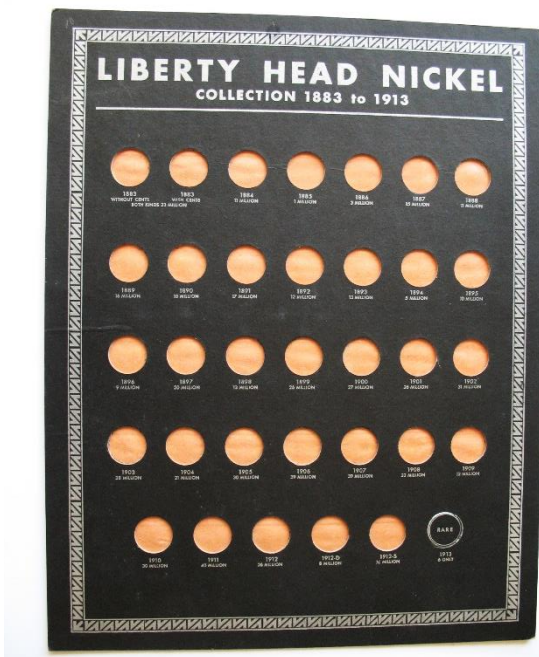
Kent Company

COLONIAL COIN & STAMP COMPANY-The second maker of coin boards was by Leiser Wolf Schnelling in New York,N.Y. It's copyright is dated 1935 under Colonial Coin & Stamp Company. It's title was THE COIN COLLECTOR, with a subtitle U.S. SMALL CENTS LINCOLN HEAD. Then other denominations followed. You could see both sides of the coins, because the back of board had plastic, versus other companies. These boards sold for about 25 cents each. I have some that still have the sticker price on the back. The last boards appear to have been printed in 1940. The types of Colonial Coin & Stamp Boards produced in First and Second Edition were:

1. Flying Eagle Pennies and Indian Head Pennies
2. U.S. Small Cents Lincoln Head
3. Two-Cent Pieces / Nickel Three-Cent Pieces
4. U.S. Shield Nickels
5. U.S. Buffalo Nickels
6. U.S. Dimes Liberty Head
7. U.S. Dimes Mercury Head
8. US Quarter Liberty Head (Part 1)
9. US Quarter Liberty Head (Part 2)
10. US Quarter Standing Liberty
11. US Quarter Washington Head
12. US Half Dollar Standing Liberty
13. US. Half Dollar Commemorative



Colonial



Whitman

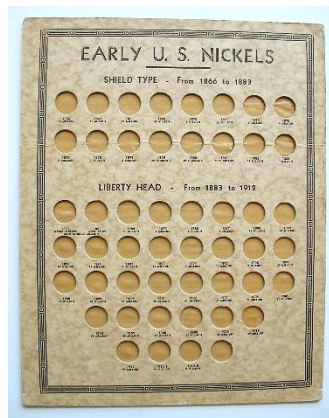
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY- Western Printing in Racine, Wisconsin started about 1908, by Edward Wadewitz, producing books for children. In 1916 it acquired Hammerung-Whitman Publishing Company. Then the name was shortened to Whitman Publishing Company. Samuel E. Lowe, a salesman for Whitman, eventually became President. In 1934 Whitman Publishing was printing the coin boards for Joseph K. Post, The Kent Company. Somehow Whitman Publishing assumed ownership with a copyright in 1935, through a deal, paying Joseph K. Post a royalty for all retail sales. Today Whitman Publishing Company is based in Atlanta, Georgia. In my opinion, there is more Whitman boards than all other companies combined. There are a few scarce ones, like the Large Cent Boards and the Peace Type Silver Boards. Here is the order in which they were produced by copyright dates and editions. The types of Whitman Publishing Company Boards produced in First, Second, Third, Fourth, X and Y Editions were:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Indian Head / Flying Eagle penny | 12. Two Cent, Nickel Three Cent |
| 2. Lincoln Penny | 13. Shield Type Nickel |
| 3. Liberty Head Nickel | 14. Morgan Half Dollar 1892-1902 |
| 4. Buffalo Nickel | 15. Morgan Half Dollar 1903-1915 |
| 5. Morgan Type Dime | 16. Liberty Standing Half Dollar |
| 6. Mercury Dime | 17. Commemorative Half Dollar |
| 7. Morgan Type Quarter 1892-1905 | 18. Liberty Seated Dimes 1837-1862 |
| 8. Morgan Type Quarter 1906-1916 | 19. Liberty Seated Dimes 1863-1891 |
| 9. Liberty Standing Quarter | 20. Washington Head Quarter |
| 10. Large Cent 1793-1825 | 21. Peace Type Silver dollar |
| 11. Large Cent 1826-1857 | |

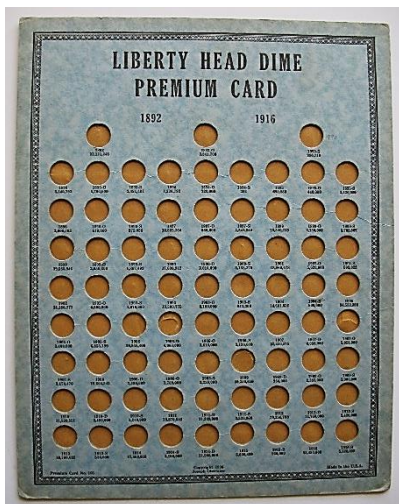
About 1937 Whitman Publishing Company produced a bound Album with a series of coin boards inside measuring 12 1/2 inches wide by 14 3/4 inches high. The album was made of cardstock with black cloth and gold lettering on the front cover stating ALBUMS OF UNITED STATES COINS. Inside, each coin board in a series was glued at its left side between strips of fabric with a fine sheet of paper between the coin boards. They are sought after by serious collectors and are rare. I thought at first they were used by salesman to carry with them, to sell the product but in David W. Lange's book on Collecting Boards of the 1930's & 1940's tells us they sold for \$3.00. The Album also serves as a convenient dealer counter display.

LINCOLN PRINTING COMPANY-Started out in 1928, by twin brothers, Edward & Robert Ritterband. It was a general printing operation. Then Edward quit and worked somewhere else. Then in 1937 Robert Ritterband under LINCOLN PRINTING COMPANY produced two coin boards for cents and two coin boards for nickels, which all the titles are quite limited. They are very scarce. He produced them for about four years, 1937-1941. The types of Lincoln Printing Company Boards produced were:

1. Indian Head Pennies / Flying Eagle 1856-1909
2. Lincoln Head Pennies 1909-1940
3. Early U.S. Nickels / Shield Type 1883-1912
4. Buffalo Nickels 1913-1938



Lincoln



Oberwise

J. OBERWISE & COMPANY- Joseph Oberwise in Los Angeles, California started making coin boards with a copyright dated 1938, under J. Oberwise & Company. You would fill the board with coins, then sell it back to them for a premium price. The prices paid by Qberwise for a full set was on the back of each coin board. There are many varieties with dates and mintages being produced every couple of months. I have several that are not listed in David W. Lange book of Coin Collecting Boards of the 1930's & 1940's. J. Oberwise & Company made boards until the late 1940,s. The types of J. Oberwise & Company Boards produced were:

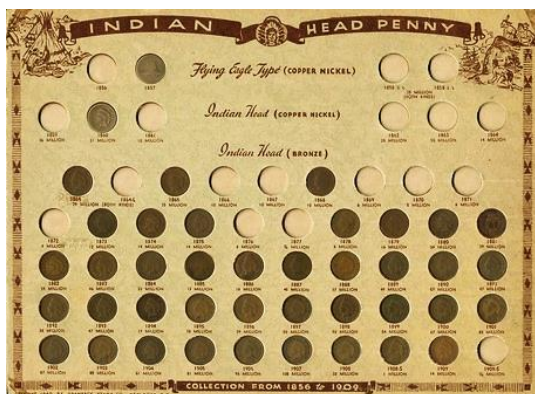
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|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Indian Cent / Flying Eagle | 7. Mercury Dime |
| 2. Lincoln Cent 1909-1946 | 8. Liberty Head Quarter 1892-1904 |
| 3. Early Nickel Shield Type | 9. Liberty Head Quarter 1905-1916 |
| 4. Buffalo Nickel | 10. Standing Liberty Quarter |
| 5. Jefferson Nickel 1938- | 11. Washington Head Quarter 1932- |
| 6. Liberty Head Dime | 12. U.S. Half Dollar, write in your date & issue |
| | 13. U.S. Dollar, write in your date & issue |

EARL & KOEHLER in Portland, Oregon, started by Benjamin L. Earl and Frank A. Koehler. They made coin boards in 1939 and 1940. You would fill the coin boards and sell them to the publisher for a premium, just like J.Oberwise & Company. They were distributed locally in Oregon or California. I do not have any of these boards yet. They are very hard to find. The types of Earl & Koehler Boards produced were:

1. Lincoln Cent
2. Buffalo Nickel
3. Mercury Dime



Earl & Koehler



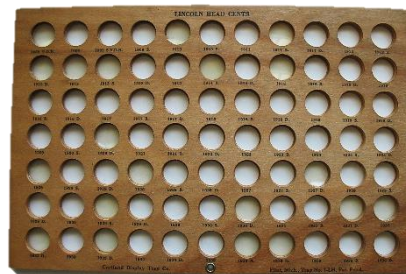
Gramercy

GRAMERCY STAMP COMPANY has a copyright date of 1940 in New York City. David W. Lange thinks they were within boxed kits labeled Penny hobby Coin Collecting Outfit. They have the usual information found on most brands of coin boards. Again, I do not have of these boards. Only a few have surfaced. Very rare. The types of Gramercy Stamp Company Boards produced were:

1. Indian Head Flying Eagle 1856-1909
2. Lincoln Cent 1909-

I want to thank David W. Lange for all resources (including photos on this page) and references in phone calls and his book on Coin Collecting Boards of the 1930,s & 1940,s and the many phone calls to Chris Buck at PIONEERBUCKS@GMAIL.COM. for helping identify many of my coin boards. You can reach David W. Lange at LANGEDW@MSN.COM. or look up COINCOLLECTINGBOARDS.COM.

I need some help on this item. I have a wooden coin board for Lincoln Head Cents from 1909-1936-D. It looks like it is made from 1/4 Birch Plywood. Measurements are 7 3/4 inches high by 11 3/4 in length. The coin board has 77 openings and at the bottom in the center of the board, it has a steel ring opening for some type of a binder or O ring to hook it on. Each coin opening has a little round plastic see through with groove impression slots in the wood to hold them in. This is done on both side of the board. You can pop them out and put your coin in and put the round plastic in again. On the front side at the bottom of the coin board in black lettering it states CURTLAND DISPLAY TRAY CO. Space FLINT, MICH. TRAY NO. 1-LH, PAT PEND. If anybody has any information on this type of coin board, please call me at 920-337-6509 or Cell 920-615-0856.



A RETURN ON YOUR INVESTMENT

By David L. Forsythe #2150

The title of this exposé may not articulate the subject to be what you expect for it to be, but may be a reflection of all of our hopes, reinforce your actions, and provide inspiration to others. The story is simple and I would surmise, common to most of you.

As a young lad, I gravitated to the fascination and preoccupation of coin collecting by sifting through my paper route change, coin segregated by my mother designated for the laundry mat, and the search for treasure which may have slipped from my father's pockets and found its way into realm of "finders keepers" by way of the davenport.

Am I a coin collector? By default and in order to divert me from childhood mischief, it happens that my parents for my ninth birthday honored the occasion by presenting me Whitman Lincoln cent and Jefferson nickel books.

Yes, I had moved into the hobby in no small way. At the time little did I realize the ramification or the responsibility which lay ahead of me.

A time did come to safely store my priceless treasure to concentrate on more pressing matters. (ie: high school, girls, college, graduate school, licensing exams, finding employment and making a living) Despite the distractions, in the back of my mind was the security of knowing that my priceless treasure from the earlier years was safely stored and in my parent's possession.

As a consequence and a measure of good luck, the bright lights of coin collecting were not far from sight, in that Chet Krause, Krause Publications, Inc., and the management team were and still are a part of the fabric and soul of the small central Wisconsin community we all call home.

We all understand the value of change, and I do not mean that which is in our pockets. Time brings change. It is inevitable and a fact of life to which none of us is immune.

As with most of you, the passing of a loved one or close friend regularly reminds us of our mortality. We either embrace change and the opportunities it provides, or resist and attempt to repel the natural consequence of the times.

Shortly after my mother unexpectedly past this last year, my father rediscovered my coin collection of by gone years and returned it to me. It may seem odd how such a simple treasure can resurrect a body of emotion in the form of thoughts and gratitude. The fire was reignited and the mission was clear.

Alas, I might be a coin collector. With nearly sixty years of life experience and understanding that the purpose in life is not singular in amassing a great fortune, I decided to venture with bold steps out of my comfort zone with the eagerness of an apprentice, and explore unknown territory.

With high expectations and the ignorance of a man in my position with limited knowledge in an area more unfamiliar than familiar to me, I consulted the masters. Joel Edler, Cliff Mishler, David Harper and Robert Wilhite have been patient, kind, and generous with what must certainly be the most elemental of queries.

The acts of these individuals have provided the fuel for the fire that was ignited and became a blaze. A new adventure is before me.

Several weeks ago upon reflection and the fear that I may become self-absorbed, and ignore the certainty of change and my mortality, I made a promise to a fatherless young lad of nine years that happened to be the great nephew of a close family friend, that if he helped me pick up sticks in the yard on Saturday that I had a special surprise for him.

Eagerly and without haste, the young lad gathered, piled and picked up sticks with a ferocity and dedication that most of us would be amazed to witness. His actions are particular in noting in that he is not immune from the normal distractors of his generation.

After a job well done, and consumption of a grilled cheese sandwich and glass of milk, it was time for the long awaited surprise that had been earned by the young lad.

We went together to the home office which is widely known to be “off limits” to children, for all the usual reasons.

In the room and in addition to adult clutter, awaits a small desk, chair, magnifying glass, a cache of separated Lincoln cents and two empty Whitman coin folders suitable for the purpose. The lesson was to begin.

In the quiet of the room and with the magnifying glass in hand, the shouts of success regularly rang out, “Uncle David, I found one!”

After the better part of two and one half hours the greatest measure of satisfaction was expressed. The young lad exclaimed, “Coin collecting is fun!” It appeared that the lesson was adequately learned, and the lad’s new treasure was safely stored away until another day. I am a coin collector.

To those that may harbor any doubt, let me assure and encourage you at all levels that the time, effort, energy and investment you have made has and will continue to generate a return with dividends.





ANA NEWS

Summer Seminar Scholarships Available for Young Collectors and Adult Hobbyists

Deadline for scholarship applications is Jan. 31

Full and partial scholarships are available to both youths and adults who wish to attend the American Numismatic Association's highly acclaimed 2018 Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs, Colo. Dates for the two one-week sessions are June 16-21 and June 23-28.

Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of merit. Successful applicants need to demonstrate involvement, leadership and accomplishments in numismatics, as well as a desire to learn more about the hobby. In addition to learning from the hobby's most prominent leaders and scholars, full scholarships cover tuition for a one week-long class, accommodations in a Colorado College dormitory, meals and airfare; partial scholarships cover tuition only.

Download the application at money.org. Applications must be postmarked by Jan. 31, 2018. Summer Seminar is a once-a-year opportunity for numismatic learning and camaraderie that offers students an array of weeklong courses designed for discovery or continued study.

For over 40 years, Summer Seminar has featured classes to suit virtually every collector's hobby needs, including Detecting Counterfeit and Altered Coins, Grading United States Coins, Early American Copper Coinage, Digital Numismatic Photography, Morgan Silver Dollars, Coins of Colonial America, and many more.

Scholarships are made possible through funding programs such as the Robert Lecce Advanced Scholarship and the Summer Seminar Young Numismatist Scholarship, which are funded by generous donations from members and member organizations.

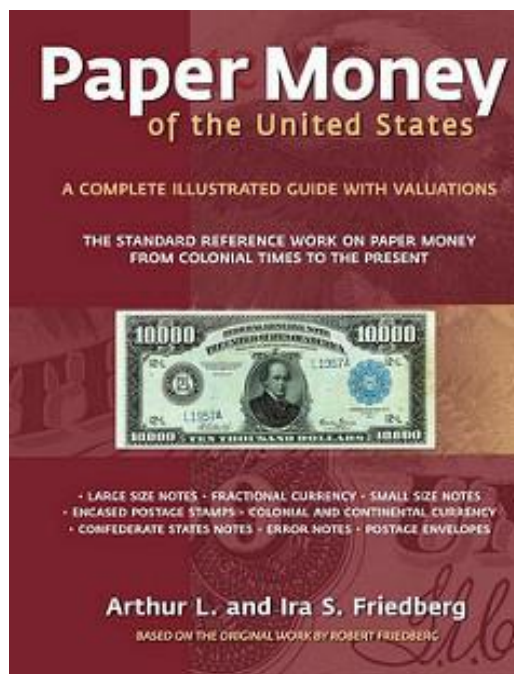
For additional information, please contact Christie Cooper at seminars@money.org or call 719-482-9849.

BOOKS !

PAPER MONEY OF THE U.S. 21ST EDITION

21st Edition of Friedberg's Paper Money of United States, in full color, was released in multiple formats on October 23, 2017.

Sixty-four years after its introduction, the twenty-first edition of *Paper Money of United States*, the standard reference book on United States paper money, is being released by the Coin & Currency Institute. In 1953, the late Robert Friedberg (1912-1963) broke new ground when the Treasury Department granted permission for photographs of American paper money to be printed for the first time. The current edition's 328 pages sets the standard once again by featuring notes from America's greatest currency collections, all reproduced in color. The inaugural edition of *Paper Money of the United States* also introduced other innovations never before attempted. The subject became standardized and the book earned a permanent place on reference shelves. During the past three decades, it has been completely expanded, revised, and edited by Arthur L. Friedberg and Ira S. Friedberg.



As with any price catalog, the twenty-first edition of *Paper Money of the United States* is a snapshot in time – and as the new edition debuts, it shows that the market for paper money market is stable, with notes of great rarity or top quality often setting price records every time they are sold. As with every edition, all valuations have been adjusted to reflect market conditions, which are mostly up. These prices are given in up to seven states of preservation from Very Good (VG8) to Gem Uncirculated (Gem65). There are also several other significant additions and revisions to the new volume, including notes never before known to exist, making it a necessity for every collector and dealer of American currency.

From the first year of Federal paper money, 1861, to the present, the fronts and backs of all classes and types of currency, from 3 cents to 10,000 dollars are illustrated. These are accompanied by text listing, describing and pricing every variety of paper money ever issued, more than 10,000 prices in all. With close to 1,000 color photographs, the result is a complete pictorial, descriptive and numismatic history of the currency of the United States. There are supplemental sections on Continental and Colonial Currency (notes issued from 1680 to 1788), the Treasury Notes of the War of 1812, considered by some to be the first national currency, a comprehensive listing by type of the issues of the Confederate States of America, and sections devoted to paper money errors, postage envelopes, and encased postage stamps. The latter two, along with Fractional Currency, were created to alleviate the shortage of change needed for commerce during the Civil War. The listing in the Appendix of the 14,348 National Banks that existed from 1863 to 1929 also shows the numbers of large size and small size (more . . .) notes known to exist for each note-issuing bank. The Appendix also includes information on uncut sheets of small-size notes, including the modern issues sold by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing,



Paper money collectors depend on the Friedberg Numbering System™, a uniform method of cataloging bank notes that is the international standard for American currency. This numbering shorthand, along with the hundreds of photographs, enables anyone to instantly locate a specific banknote, and allows a dealer to advertise a note without need of extensive description. A distinguished panel of experts on paper money has assisted the authors, enabling them to establish accurate and up-to- the minute valuations for all issues.

It is a book which belongs in every library, public and private. Sample pages from the 21st edition may be seen on the book's website, www.PaperMoneyoftheUS.com.

The book is printed in the United States and is available in three formats. A low-price, easy to carry soft cover version (ISBN 978-087184- 521-4) is \$42.50. A long-lasting, hard-bound copy with sewn binding (ISBN 978087184-721- 8) is \$67.50. An e-book edition (ISBN 978-087184- 021-9) costs \$29.50 and is also offered as a one-day rental. The books are available or may be ordered from book stores, coin and paper money dealers, and from internet book sellers. Copies may also be obtained from the Coin & Currency Institute, P.O. Box 399, Williston, Vermont 05495. \$5.75 should be added to each order for shipping and handling. Major credit cards are accepted. Call toll-free 1-800- 421-1866. Fax (802) 536-4787. E-mail: info@PaperMoneyoftheUS.com.

